POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR ORPHANS AND OTHER CHILDREN MADE VULNERABLE BY HIV AND AIDS IN SOUTH AFRICA

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BACKGROUND TO THE POLICY FRAMEWORK

Recommendation of the Conference held in 2002 – "A Call for Co-ordinated Action for Children affected by HIV and AIDS"

One of the recommendations made was that mechanisms should be put in place to co-ordinate and facilitate the process to mitigate the devastating impact of HIV and AIDS on children at all levels through coordinating structures

South African Legal and Policy Framework, and a number of UN Conventions and Declarations e.g. S.A Constitution, Millennium Development Goals

DRAFT POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Policy Framework is intended to promote an enabling and supportive environment for more effective service delivery to orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS

INTENTION OF THE POLICY FRAMEWORK

- It confirms existing policy and makes reference to intended policy;
- It reiforces existing, relevant legislation and the links between various pieces of legislation;
- Provides a rationale for common action by different government departments in deciding what programmes to implement and how to do so;

INTENTION CONT.

- It clarifies Government's approach, principles, and intentions and to facilitate coordination and effective partnerships with other stakeholders, including civil society and Business Sector
- It specifies the roles of Government and other actors, and promotes intersectoral and inter-departmental coordination and collaboration
- It provides empirical support for making decisions about allocating resources for management and support

OUTLINE OF THE POLICY FRAMEWORK

Mandate

Situation Analysis

Definitions

Vision, , Missions and Principles

Co-ordination

Policy and Legal Framework

Strategies

Monitoring and Evaluation

Resources

DEFINITIONS

- Child
- Orphan
- Vulnerable Children (vulnerability in the context of HIV and AIDS)
- Child-headed households
- Policy Framework
- Primary caregiver

VISION

Orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS grow and develop to their full potential.

MISSION

Create and promote a supportive environment in which orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS are adequately cared for, supported and protected holistically to grow and develop to their full potential

 Holistically: Physically, Spiritually, Legally, Psychologically, Materially, Socially and Morally

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY FRAMEWORK

To ensure co-ordination of service delivery to orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, their caregivers, families and communities at national, provincial, district and local level.

To enhance the impact of legal, policy and institutional frameworks for the protection and promotion of the rights of OVC

To provide an overarching framework to support stakeholders, including both government and civil society, in developing appropriate responses to orphans and other vulnerable children that are support comprehensive, age appropriate, integrated, quality services,

PRINCIPLES

- The best interests of the child must inform all decisions affecting the child;
- The child's right to survival, protection and development
- Respect for the views and feelings of the child
- All children should be given the opportunity to enjoy their rights without discrimination
- Coordination at all levels to ensure effective and appropriate service delivery to orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, their families and communities.

PRINCIPLES CONT

- Children, should as far as possible, remain and cared for in their homes or communities of origin
- Children and their families should have access to a range of differentiated services on a continuum of care
- Communities should actively participate in planning, decision making and monitoring of policies and programmes
- Strengthen the economic coping capacities of families and communities
- Orphans must not be targeted in isolation from other vulnerable children

CO-ORDINATION

- Co-ordination at three levels:
 - National level
 - Provincial level
 - District level

This section covers the responsibilities of all government departments as well as civil society within the coordinating mechanism

POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- UNGASS (Three articles in the 2001 UNGASS Declaration of Commitment relate to Orphans and other Children made Vulnerable by HIV and AIDS)
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK CONT

The SA Constitution

Bill of Rights

HIV/AIDS/STI Strategic Plan for South Africa 2000 – 2005

The Child Care Act No 74 of 83

The Children's Bill

The National Integrated Plan for Children and Youth affected by HIV and AIDS

HIV and AIDS Policy for Learners and Educators

White Paper for Social Development

White Paper for Inclusive Education

KEY STRATEGIES

- Strengthen and support the capacity of families to protect and care for Orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS
- Mobilise and strengthen Community-Based responses to the care, support and protection of orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS
- Ensure access for orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS to essential services

STRATEGIES CONT

- Ensure that legislation, policy, strategies and programmes are in place to protect the most vulnerable children
- Raise awareness and advocacy to create an enabling and supportive environment for the care and support of orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS
- Engage the business community to play an active role in supporting the plight of OVC.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Obligations (UNGASS Declaration of Commitment)
- Monitoring & Evaluation Strategy (NACCA responsibility)
- Indicators (will be developed)

RESOURCES

 Financial Resources (mobilisation of resources/ Government / Donor Organisations / Development Agencies/Business Sector)

 Human Resources (appropriate, sufficient and skilled human resources at all levels)

Progress

- Costing of action plan
- Monitoring and evaluation plan
- Resource mobilisation
- Communication strategy